care of small and marginal farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The credit needs of small and marginal farmers are being met by existing institutional arrangements.

[Translation]

Foreign Exchange Reserves

3231. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries whose currencies are available with the Foreign Exchange Reserves at present;

(b) the amount invested by the Reserve Bank of India out of the said reserves during the last three years; and

(c) the impact on the prices due to non-utilisation of the said reserve on productive works ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) The foreign currency assets of the Reserve Bank of India broadly consist of convertible hard currencies of major countries where the markets are deep and liquid.

(b) The entire foreign currency assets are invested abroad.

(c) It is difficult to establish a direct correlation between productive work, utilisation of forex reserves and inflation.

Export of Silk

3232. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in the export of silk products during the last few years;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Silk Board has urged upon the Union Government for creation of reserves of indigenous raw material in order to remain in competition in the growing global market of silk;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the other steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of silk products ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) There has not been a single trend of the exports of silk products of the country during the last three years. While the exports of silk products during the year 1994-95 increased as compared to 1993-94, the exports during the year 1995-96 declined in comparison to 1994-95. This was mainly due to changes in fashion and customers preferences in the International markets, fall/stagnation in the unit export price of silk goods in terms of US $ and general recession in major markets like USA and Europe.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) In order to increase the exports of silk products, the Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organising generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Tex Styles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine "Silk India" and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc. Besides, the Government has taken several measures to boost silk exports such as the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products etc.

Foreign Investment in PSUs

3233. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign investment has been made in the public sector industrial units for the development and expansion of the industries during the Eight Year Plan;

(b) if so, the year-wise and industry-wise investment made during the above period;

(c) whether the profit has been increased in these industries as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the break-up of profit earned industry-wise and year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The allocation of plan outlay for Five Year Plans for public sector undertakings does not include foreign investment. However, there are some PSUs in which foreign parties have invested by way of equity and loans. As on 31.3.95, the foreign investment in terms of equity and loans was Rs. 112.21 crores and Rs. 36173.79 crores respectively. PSU-wise details are given in Statement No. 17 and 18 of Volume-I of P.E. Survey, 1994-95 laid in both Houses of the Parliament on 19.7.96. During 1992-93, the beginning of 8th Five Year Plan, the invetment from foreign parties in terms of equity and loans was Rs. 121.81 crores and Rs. 30703.98 crores respectively. Year-wise cumulative figure for 1992-93 to 1994-95, upto which period only information is available, is given in